

REPORT

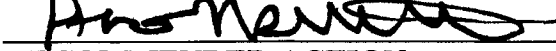
DATE: September 14, 2006

TO: Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Jonathan Nadler, Program Manager, Air Quality and Conformity

SUBJECT: 2007 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the release of SCAG's portion of the Draft 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for public review and comment.

SUMMARY:

SCAG is responsible for the development of a transportation strategy and transportation control measures for the South Coast Air Basin Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The Draft 2007 AQMP is scheduled to be released for public review and comment in October 2006.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act, the State Implementation Plan (SIP) demonstrating attainment with the 8-hour ozone standard is due to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by June 15, 2007. The SIP for the PM_{2.5} standard is due to U.S. EPA by April 5, 2008. The 2007 AQMP being prepared by the three responsible agencies, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and SCAG, will address both these standards and will be submitted to U.S. EPA to meet the June 15, 2007 deadline. The Draft AQMP is scheduled to be released in the fourth-quarter of 2006.

SCAG's role in the AQMP process includes providing transportation demand model output data to the SCAQMD for use in airshed modeling and vehicle activity data to CARB for use in developing on-road emission factors. SCAG has provided these data to the respective agencies. In addition to this technical data, SCAG is developing the written section of the AQMP which discusses the region's transportation strategy as it relates to air quality. Specifically, the write-up includes an overview of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), procedures for identifying and tracking Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) and a list of constrained TCMs, an analysis of Reasonably Available Control Measures (RACM), and an emissions analysis of on-road transportation sources. The four County Transportation Commissions are actively involved in the development of the TCM strategies.

The SIP includes two important components relative to transportation planning and federal conformity requirements – emissions budgets and TCMs. Emissions budgets set an upper limit which transportation activities are permitted to emit; TCMs are strategies to reduce emissions from on-road mobile sources. The emission budgets established as part of the 2007 AQMP process and adopted into the SIP will become the functioning budgets for conformity for the upcoming Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work related to this item is included in the Overall Work Program under 07-025 Air Quality/Conformity.

Update on 2007 AQMP

Energy & Environment Committee
September 14, 2006

SCAG Portion of 2007 AQMP

- Data Provided to Date to SCAQMD
 - Updated 2004 RTP socioeconomic data
 - Interim transportation model output
- Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) Based on 2006 RTIP
- Reasonably Available Control Measure (RACM) Analysis
- New Information
 - Compass Blueprint discussion
 - Goods movement discussion

TCMs Defined

- U.S. EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule - 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93
- Federal Clean Air Act Section 108(f)(1)(A) Lists Sixteen Measures As Illustrative Of TCMs
- Measures Which Reduce Vehicle Use Or Change Traffic Flow Or Congestion Conditions
 - Does not include vehicle technology-based, fuel-based, and maintenance-based measures which control emissions from vehicles under fixed traffic conditions
- May Be Voluntary, Incentive, Or Regulatory Programs, As Well As Market- Or Pricing-based Programs

Examples of TCM Categories

- Programs For Improved Use Of Public Transit;
- Restriction of Certain Roads or Lanes to, or Construction of Such Roads or Lanes For Use By, Passenger Buses or High Occupancy Vehicles
- Employer-based Transportation Management Plans, Including Incentives
- Programs to Limit or Restrict Vehicle Use In Downtown Areas or Other Areas of Emission Concentration, Particularly During Periods of Peak Use
- Programs For New Construction and Major Reconstruction of Paths, Tracks or Areas Solely For the Use By Pedestrian or Other Non-motorized Means of Transportation

Source: Federal Clean Air Act Section 108(f)(1)(A)

SCAG TCMs for 2007 AQMP

- Derived From TCM Projects Listed In The First Two Years Of The 2006 RTIP
- Approximately 300 TCMs

RACM

- Required by CAA Section 172(c)(1)
- Review TCMs in Other Areas
- Contrast with TCMs in Air Plan
- Provide Reasoned Justification if Not Implementing
- Comprehensive RACM Analysis for 2003 AQMP Basis for 2007 AQMP
- Analysis Indicates No Additional TCMs Required

Schedule

- SED Data to AQMD in March 2006
- Interim Model Activity Data to AQMD/CARB in April – June 2006
- Draft AQMP Released October/November 2006